

expand. For example, in the university budget...I don't mean to be picking on the university, but they're as good as anybody else, I guess. Back in '85-86 the appropriations request for the university was \$455,109,540. Anybody want to guess what it is this year? The appropriations request is \$678,249,677. So when we talk about what we can afford and not afford, think about that for a while. What do we have in that particular budget, just like so many others, that simply is there because that bureaucracy went to the Appropriations Committee and continued to expand whatever they want. And with a few days and what little time any of us have with our other legislative responsibilities, we don't have the time to understand what all of that means. It isn't dishonorable. There's nothing wrong with it, as far as the process is concerned, it's legal. But what you do by having a process like that is cut out meaningful legislation like 187 and like 1013. You're left to be grateful for what you got and keep your mouth shut and sit down kind of a thing. I don't know about you but I think that's not too good. To be completely frank, we all ought to know a hell of a lot more about what we spend and how we spend it. And, to tell you the truth, I understand we can stand up on the floor and say, well, there isn't any money left. I don't know, I've got the Treasurer's report here and says we've got one billion nine hundred and some million dollars in the bank. It's interesting that about a billion dollars of that is never spent. It's there year in and year out. It's not a reserve, it's cash. But isn't that great to have that kind of cash around? You've got a \$1,313,000,000 General Fund budget and you've got a billion dollars in the bank every day. I don't think we ought to spend it, understand that. But you ought to understand, what's the difference between a 3 percent reserve and cash you never spend? Wouldn't you love to have that kind of money in the bank back home when you try to think about what kind of house payment you're going to make or anything else? I think we need a total and complete review of how the system works and we should probably consider last, last, not first, we should consider last the main-line appropriations bill, because, see, if we consider it last, we can talk about some of the priorities that exist out here on the floor, like LB 1013 and like 187 and some others and then maybe adjust, just maybe adjust a main-line appropriations bill to make room for what we think may be important without really hurting any of the bureaucracies if we're given time to understand the difference. Maybe the system exists because most of us are lazy and don't want to take the time to understand what it's all about. I can understand that. It's easy to sit